

investment is more secure and more jobs are available.

But it takes a lot more taxpayer dollars to build infrastructure.

It takes investment in human capital, too, and the same "invest now or pay more later" logic should apply. There are some existing strong partnerships between the public and private sectors and organized labor which have wisely adopted a goal-oriented strategy. Prevailing wage laws—created by the federal, state and local governments, in partnership with the building trades and business—have attracted skilled labor with the expertise and experience to complete projects on time and within budget. The Santa Monica Freeway is a shining example; it was reconstructed to the highest quality standards, ahead of schedule and under budget in the aftermath of the Northridge earthquake. Public infrastructure projects have also expanded career opportunities for young people. Some of the best technical training in our region is available through the organized building trades. The facilities are first rate, and the curriculum is fully up-to-date and forward looking.

Against the strong arguments for pay-now versus pay more later, those in the Washington beltway who would eliminate the Davis Bacon Act are shortsighted in their thinking. According to a recent study by the University of Utah Economics Department, in the nine states which have repealed prevailing wage laws, the pay more later rule has kicked in, with the net result being reduced wages for construction workers, increased workplace injuries and deaths, a decline in job training, a loss of tax revenue to the state and increased cost overruns.

Retaining the Davis-Bacon Act and our prevailing wage laws is critical to the public private partnership which has worked so well in developing our public infrastructure and the highly skilled workforce upon which it depends. In so doing, we can continue to build great projects, produce the good paying jobs and careers our economy must have, and save millions of taxpayer dollars in the process. And we can all rest a little easier knowing that the next time the earth moves, we will still have skilled contractors and construction workers needed to get the job done.●

KOWTOW: THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S BOW TO BEIJING

● Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, recently, Lorna Hahn had an op-ed piece in the Washington Post titled, "Kowtow: The State Department's Bow to Beijing."

What she says there makes eminent sense.

I cannot understand our continuing to give a cold shoulder to President Lee of Taiwan.

I trust our Government will make its decision known soon that it will do the responsible thing and let President Lee come to our country. He is a freely elected president of a multiparty country with a free press. We should not give him the cold shoulder because another nation without these human rights objects.

I ask that the Lorna Hahn item be printed in the RECORD at this point.

The item follows:

KOWTOW—THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S BOW TO BEIJING.

(By Lorna Hahn)

Lee Teng-hui, president of the Republic of China on Taiwan, wishes to accept an honor-

ary degree from Cornell University, where he earned his PhD in agronomy.

Last year, when Cornell made the same offer, Lee was refused entry into the United States because Beijing belligerently reminded the State Department that granting a visa to a Taiwanese leader would violate the principle of "One China." (Cornell subsequently sent an emissary to Taipei for a substitute ceremony.) This year, on Feb. 9, Assistant Secretary of State Winston Lord told a congressional hearing that our government "will not reverse the policies of six administrations of both parties."

It is high time it did. The old policy was adopted at a time when China and Taiwan were enemies, Taiwan's government claimed to represent all of China, and Beijing's leaders would never dream of meeting cordially with their counterparts from Taipei. Today, things are very different.

Upon assuming office in 1988, Lee dropped all pretense of ever reconquering the mainland and granted that the Communists do indeed control it. Since then, he has eased tensions and promoted cooperation with the People's Republic of China through the Lee Doctrine, the pragmatic, flexible approach through which he (1) acts independently without declaring independence, which would provoke Chinese wrath and perhaps an invasion; (2) openly recognizes the PRC government and its achievements and asks that it reciprocate, and (3) seeks to expand Taiwan's role in the world while assuring Beijing that he is doing so as a fellow Chinese who has their interests at heart as well.

Lee claims to share Beijing's dream of eventual reunification—provided it is within a democratic, free-market system. Meanwhile, he wants the PRC—and the world—to accept the obvious fact that China has since 1949 been a divided country, like Korea, and that Beijing has never governed or represented Taiwan's people. Both governments, he believes, should be represented abroad while forging ties that could lead to unity.

To this end he has fostered massive investments in the mainland, promoted extensive and frequent business, cultural, educational and other exchanges, and offered to meet personally with PRC President Jiang Zemin to discuss further cooperation. His policies are so well appreciated in Beijing—which fears the growing strength of Taiwan's pro-independence movement—that Jiang recently delivered a highly conciliatory speech to the Taiwanese people in which he suggested that their leaders exchange visits.

If China's leaders are willing to welcome Taiwan's president to Beijing, why did their foreign ministry, on March 9, once again warn that "we are opposed to Lee Teng-hui visiting the United States in any form"? Because Beijing considers the "Taiwan question" to be an "internal affair" in which, it claims, the United States would be meddling if it granted Lee a visa.

But Lee does not wish to come here in order to discuss the "Taiwan question" or other political matters, and he does not seek to meet with any American officials. He simply wishes to accept an honor from a private American institution, and perhaps discuss with fellow Cornell alumni the factors that have contributed to Taiwan's—and China's—outstanding economic success.

President Clinton has yet to make the final decision regarding Lee's visit. As Rep. Sam Gejdenson (D-Conn.) recently stated: "It seems to me illogical not to allow President Lee on a private basis to go back to his alma mater." As his colleague Rep. Gary Ackerman (D-N.Y.) added: "It is embarrassing for many of us to think that, after encouraging the people and government on Taiwan to democratize, which they have, [we forbid President Lee] to return to the United States * * * to receive an honorary degree."●

ETNA SWIMMER WINS GOLD IN PAN AMERICAN GAMES

● Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Barbara (B.J.) Bedford of Etna, NH for capturing three gold medals for swimming in the women's 100 meter and 200 meter backstroke, and as a member of the 4 x 100 meter medley relay, at the Pan American Games held in Mar del Plata, Argentina, March 11 to 26, 1995.

The U.S. Olympic committee sent 800 athletes, including 159 current Olympians, to compete in the 12th Pan Am Games—its largest contingent ever. B.J.'s performance was remarkable and one for which she can be very proud.

B.J. has not only excelled at the Pan Am Games, but she was the bronze medalist in the 100 meter in the 1994 World Championships and is the 11th fastest woman in history in the 100 meter backstroke. At the 1994 Goodwill Games, she won two gold medals in the 200 meter backstroke and 400 meter medley relay and a silver medal in the 100 meter backstroke. She is a three-time U.S. national champion. Currently, B.J. is training for the 1996 Olympics in Gainesville, FL.

B.J. is the daughter of Frederick and Jane Bedford of Etna. She attended Hanover High School and Kimball Union Academy in New Hampshire where she swam with the North Country Aquatics Club. She graduated from the University of Texas in 1994 with a degree in Art History.

On behalf of the citizens of the Granite State, congratulations to Barbara Bedford for a job well done. We are very proud to have this world-class competitor represent New Hampshire at the Pan American Games and look forward to following her future successes. It is an honor to represent Barbara and her family in the U.S. Senate.●

IN TRIBUTE TO NANCY D'ALESSANDRO

● Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Nancy D'Alesandro, a first-class First Lady of Baltimore. She was a dedicated wife, mother of 6, grandmother of 16 and the driving force behind a family that distinguished itself in Baltimore and in Washington.

Nancy D'Alesandro was a Baltimore institution. There was nobody closer to the street or closer to the people. From 1947 to 1959, her husband Thomas D'Alesandro served as mayor of Baltimore and Nancy was a hands-on first lady. Likewise, she provided endless support during her husband's years in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Devoted to her children, she was there for her son, Thomas D'Alesandro III, who also served a term as mayor of Baltimore and she was there for her daughter Nancy Pelosi, who currently

serves California's Fifth District in the House of Representatives.

She was such an important part of not just the Little Italy section of Baltimore, but of the whole city and its history. She was a tireless worker and a great woman.

She immigrated to Baltimore from Italy and graduated from my high school, the Institute of Notre Dame, in 1926. She and her husband were married for nearly 60 years, until his death in 1987.

Nancy was so good to so many people—the nuns, the people in her neighborhood, people all over town. The city of Baltimore and the State of Maryland are proud and honored to have known her. The great First Lady of Baltimore has been called to glory. We will miss her. ●

HEAVEN CAN WAIT

● Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, recently, the Jerusalem Report had a fascinating story about a 15-year-old boy who narrowly missed being recruited for a suicide mission.

It is an important story because of its insight into how people with the wrong motivation can cause such horrible and needless tragedy.

This is a story that ended positively, and the young man, Musa Ziyada, hopes to become a physician. I hope he will, and I wish him the best.

I ask that the Jerusalem Post story be printed in the RECORD at this point.

The story follows:

HEAVEN CAN WAIT

Musa Ziyada arrives for our meeting late. The 15-year-old schoolboy had come home from classes and fallen asleep. Still rubbing his huge almond eyes and yawning occasionally, he finally shuffles into his father's office at 3 in the afternoon in the Rimal district of Gaza city and takes a seat across the table.

It's a wonder he's here at all. On the fifteenth day of Ramadan (or February 14), the anniversary in the Muslim calendar of the 1994 Hebron massacre, Musa, an intelligent and earnest Hamas activist, was supposed to have strapped a belt of eight kilograms of TNT around his waste and entered Israel as a human bomb. By blowing himself up along with as many Israelis as he could manage, he was expecting to go directly to heaven; his victim, he says, would go to hell. He was stopped just days before his mission by his alert father and an uncle, who had grown suspicious and handed him over to the Palestinian police.

"In the mosque, they told me that martyrdom means paradise, and that the only way to paradise is through martyrdom," Musa explains. "But I thank God that the suicide act didn't happen, because now I'm convinced it's wrong—both from a religious and personal point of view.

Musa's smooth olive skin and the downy shadow over his upper lip give him a look of innocence that belies the nature of the lethal journey he almost took. Paradise, he says, is a place where he would find "all the pleasures of life and more." A place with no death ("the last station"), full of palaces and gardens flowing with rivers of milk and delicious wine—with the alcohol taken out.

"They" told him that as a martyr, he could gain entry to heaven for 70 relatives and friends, no questions asked. And that 70

virgin brides would await him there. "Wine and women," interjects his father, Hisham, with a hearty laugh. "That was it! Admit it!" It's in the Koran, Musa retorts quietly, trying not to look embarrassed.

"They" are two members of the Izz al-Din al-Qassam brigades, the armed wing of Hamas, men in their mid-30s who told Musa he was true martyr material and started to train him. "They're just ordinary people," he says, giving the word 'ordinary' a whole new meaning. "Their main job is to persuade boys of our age to be suicide bombers." Asked whether he questioned why the two didn't go themselves, Musa replies: "I didn't want to argue, just to be convinced."

Musa was born in the Bureij refugee camp south of Gaza city in 1980, the fourth of nine children. His father, Hisham, a slim, European-looking man of 43 with blue-green eyes and a loud, ready laugh, hardly looks the part of a parent of a would-be suicide bomber. Sitting in the front office of his family firm, an aluminum window-frame workshop, he is sporting a red polo-neck, black silky jacket, jeans and tartan suspenders.

Hisham can joke about the experience now, and never misses an opportunity to do so. His son solemnly explains that a suicide bomber who blew himself up in Jerusalem in December but who didn't manage to take any Israelis with him will still go to heaven, because his intentions were "*jihadi*." But he'll only get 35 virgins, the father gaffaws.

The Ziyadas are not a religious family, though Musa's mother and grandfather pray as many ordinary Muslims do. But from an early age, Musa was particularly attracted to Islam. At 10, he was a regular at the mosque and was considered something of a prodigy in Koran. By 12, he was a member of Hamas.

"Despite his youth, he was given the title of '*emir*,' or prince, because of his religious proficiency and knowledge of the Koran," Hisham relates, with a mixture of pride and bewilderment. "Musa was trusted. Doctors and engineers used to flock to visit him in our home." Musa also loves soccer and played no the mosque team ("a Hamas team—no shorts," says Hisham).

About eight months ago, the family left Bureij and moved to Gaza city's Darraj neighborhood, to be closer to the business. Musa was happy with the move and immediately joined the Izz al-Din al-Qassam mosque near his new home. He came with recommendations from the mosque at Bureij, and quickly became something of a local celebrity.

When the bombs started exploding, killing dozens of Israelis from Afulah to Tel Aviv's Dizengoff Street, Musa began to talk about martyrdom and heaven. "He began to mention it more and more," says the father. "When bombs went off, he'd say 'Wow, I wish I was that martyr.'" He thought the suicide bombing at the Beit Lid junction in January, which killed 21 Israelis, was excellent. "Still, we didn't think much of it," Hisham says. "That's how some of the boys in the street talk."

It was the winter vacation from school. Musa said he wanted to spend some time at Bureij with his friends and family that he'd left behind there. He was given permission, and after about 10 days, his father traveled down to check up on him. When he heard from Musa's aunt and sisters there that they had hardly seen him, he began to get suspicious.

One of Hisham's brothers, Samir, is an intelligence officer in the Palestinian police. He was hearing from "his boys" in Bureij that Musa had been attending secret sessions in the mosque; he finally came to Hisham and told him he'd better watch his son. The father went to Bureij and made Musa come home.

Musa, meanwhile, had attended two secret sessions with his Hamas operators. The first, he says, was to tell him he'd been chosen and to get his agreement. "I wanted to be a martyr but I wasn't a volunteer," Musa says. "They convinced me."

The second session was to explain the outline of what he would have to do. "I wasn't told the location of the attack, but I was told people would help me and be with me all the time, even inside Israel," Musa relates. The third session, for the final details, was set for the 13th of Ramadan. He had told his father that he absolutely had to go back to Bureij that day, to help with a Hamas food distribution. But by then, Hisham had made up his mind that Musa was in trouble, and took him to the police.

"I was scared," Musa recalls. "The police were very nervous around me at the beginning and I was confused. I didn't know what to say." Before he could say much, his interrogators found on him a handwritten will that said it all. In it, Musa had asked forgiveness from his family and wrote that he'd see 70 of his relatives and friends in heaven.

Musa spent the next week-and-a-half in custody, and was released a few days before the end of the Ramadan feast. At that point, Hamas spokespeople denied Musa's story, and said the police had tortured him into giving a false confession. Musa claims he was beaten by his interrogators (his father vehemently denies it), but says matter-of-factly that, truth aside, Hamas has to defend its interests.

After months of admonishment from Israel that it has done little to stop Palestinian terrorism, the Palestinian Authority in Gaza is now making efforts, at least to improve its image and impart a sense of goodwill. Yasser Arafat has announced that his police have prevented at least 10 terror attacks recently; and Musa and two other teenage would-be suicide bombers who had changed their minds have been presented to the press in Gaza.

The Israeli public has been outraged by the recent levels of Palestinian terrorism, and after the Beit Lid attack, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin predicated a resumption of the autonomy talks with the Palestinians on a serious attempt by Arafat to quell the phenomenon.

Since then, the Palestinian Authority has announced the establishment of military courts and the Palestinian police have carried out a mini-crackdown on the radical Islamic Jihad, which claimed responsibility for Beit Lid and which is an easier target than the more popular Hamas. The offices of the Islamic Jihad newspaper, Istiqlal, have been closed and several of the radical organization's leaders are in detention.

The talks have resumed, but there is evidently still a way to go. Brig. Sa'eb al-Ajez, the National Security Forces commander of the northern Gaza Strip, can barely bring himself to accept any Palestinian responsibility for attacks that have taken place outside Gaza, and instead hints at an Israeli hand in the suicide bombings. "One has to ask how come the bombs used in Dizengoff and Beit Lid were of such high technical quality, when all the ones we've found in Gaza are so crude," he tells The Jerusalem Report in an interview. "How come someone carrying 20 kgs of explosives creates a blast with the force of 50 kgs?"

He goes on to relate that, according to the Palestinian police, the Beit Lid bombers set out from an area of the Gaza Strip under Israel's control, wearing Israeli army uniforms and driving an Israeli military vehicle. When told that his conspiracy theory would be considered shocking and ridiculous by most